

# Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Volume 36, Number 12

GREENBELT, MARYLAND

Thursday, February 8, 1973

## Actions of GHI Directors Endorsed At Meeting Called by Petitioners

by Al Skolnik

A rather good turnout — about 350 persons — attended the January 31 special membership meeting of Greenbelt Homes, Inc. The meeting had been called as the result of a petition signed by 70 members who desired "to discuss the 1973 budget and determine whether a raise in monthly charges for 1973 is justified."

The agenda consisted of the six items that the petitioners wanted to discuss. The GHI board of directors, in calling the meeting, followed the advice of its attorney, Albert Ginsberg, that no official motions could be acted on at the meeting because the petition and the notice of the meeting did not specify the action to be proposed.

This issue got the meeting off to a fast start. Sam Schwimer from the floor said the board's ruling deprived the membership of its rights, but he was countered by Mat Amberg who said that the ruling was needed to protect the membership by making sure that it would get advance notice of any proposed motions.

"I don't want to be taken by surprise," Amberg declared. Subsequently, presiding GHI president James W. Smith reaffirmed that there would be no official voting, but said that he would welcome advisory motions or straw votes and the meeting proceeded.

The first two items on the agenda created the most fireworks. They dealt with the legality of the \$25,000 GHI loan to Twin Pines Savings and Loan Association and the deferral of the 1972 increase in monthly charges for the elderly.

### Legality of Loan

Cathy Foster, the first speaker for the petitioners, charged that the GHI loan to Twin Pines was illegal, citing excerpts from the by-laws which require that GHI funds be deposited with insured savings institutions. (Twin Pines is neither Federally nor State-insured.) She also wondered how GHI was in a position to loan money when it was raising monthly charges. (In December, GHI was obliged to raise monthly charges by an average 9 percent as the result of a \$173,000 increase in the 1973 budget.)

Director Nat Shinderman responded that the loan was approved after the GHI attorney had ruled that such a loan was legal since it would be used exclusively for the sale and resale of GHI homes. (Twin Pines finances the down payment on GHI homes.) He noted that the 90-day loan would draw 8 percent interest and be secured by \$35,000 of "gilt-edge" collateral in the form of pledges on GHI home loans. "There is no question of potential danger or risk," he declared. Amberg from the floor added that if this collateral is no good, "we are all in trouble."

Shinderman said that the money from the loan came from the 3% working capital assessed members at time of purchase of their homes. These funds, he said, are restricted for such uses as prepayment of bills and insurance and are drawn down during the year. Because of the revolving and fluctuating nature of the funds, they are mainly kept in checking accounts which draw no interest or, when there is an accumulation, invested in short-term Treasury notes which draw 5% interest.

Thus, Shinderman concluded, the loan is a good deal for GHI — it is safe, it will draw a high rate of interest, and it will provide a service to GHI members by providing additional money to Twin Pines for the financing of down payments on GHI homes.

Mrs. Foster moved that in the future membership approval be required for any loan to Twin Pines and that the present board be held personally liable for any default on

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### WHAT GOES ON

Thurs., Feb. 8, 7:45 p.m. GHI Board Mtg. Bd. Rm., Hamilton Place  
Fri., Feb. 9, 8:30 p.m. Duplicate Bridge, Co-op Hospitality Rm.  
Sat., Feb. 10, 1-3 p.m. Ort Open House, 9001 Breezewood Ter., Apt. 103, SHL

## City Takes Title To SHL Golf Course

In a ceremony held Saturday, February 3, the City of Greenbelt officially took title to the 12.9 acre Springhill Lake Golf Course. Participating in the ceremony were Mayor Richard Pilski and Greenbelt City Council Members Rhea Cohen, Betty Maffay, Charles Schwan and Gil Weidenfeld and Harold Kramer, representing the owners of Springhill Lake.

The 12.9 acres of land which includes the Club House, were purchased by the City at a total price of \$86,700. Matching funds were used in the purchase.

Initial plans call for the construction of a recreation building on the site to include a gymnasium, lounge-game room, facilities for arts and crafts programs, office and storage space. Also, the existing club house will be utilized for recreation programs as well as small group meetings. Additional development on the parcel will include ball fields and picnic facilities and a portion of the golf course layout will be maintained for golf practicing.

Located adjacent to Cherrywood Lane and the Capital Beltway, this acquisition brings to 185 acres the park and open space land owned by the City of Greenbelt.

(See photo on page 8)

## Relief for Aged Renters Proposed

Prince Georges Council Vice Chairman Francis W. White presented a bill Jan. 30 extending the senior citizen property tax rebate to those renting their homes, thus providing some financial relief to nearly all the county's aged surviving on limited incomes.

Written as an amendment to the senior citizen property tax freeze approved by Council last year, the White bill would return up to \$200 annually to those 65 or older earning no more than \$7500 in retirement pensions.

The bill extends the tax credit to all those permanently disabled under Social Security, railroad retirement or any other governmental pension.

The vice chairman's bill, if enacted, will rebate 10 percent of an elderly person's annual rent up to a \$200 maximum. The bill was sent to Council's fiscal-planning committee for study.

## Womans Club Meets

The Woman's Club of Greenbelt is having its annual birthday party at the Greenbelt Library on Tuesday, February 13 at 7:45 p.m. A number of past presidents will be honored, including Mesdames Love, Goode, Benifield, Wainscott, McDonald and Holton. Mrs. Fonda will be visiting. The program will include a tour of the Tugwell Room. All members are invited to bring their friends.

## At Ridge Road Center

The Heart Association's free heart screening program is currently in operation through Feb. 14 at the Ridge Road Recreation Center. Weekday tests will be given 3:30-9:30 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Call 345-3066, 345-8650, 474-3145 for appointment.

## Council Votes Go-Ahead On New Plans for Center Mall

by Bob McGee

The big discussion items on the agenda for the regular meeting of the Greenbelt city council, Monday, February 5, turned out to be the center mall, bidding on the city's group life insurance program, Western Prince Georges county transportation alternatives, and the traffic study report on Crescent, Northway, and Lakeside. Sandwiched in between were about ten other items of some import, including a proposal by Thomas White for pedestrian and cycle overpasses of busy thoroughfares.

Under petition, White pointed out that several recent and prospective actions are being taken to affect a speed-up in the construction of the Franklin D. Roosevelt High School, along with proposals for widening the Baltimore-Washington Parkway in that vicinity. He suggested that the time might be ripe for pressing for consideration of an overpass over the Parkway to link the old and new parts of Greenbelt and permit a large number of prospective students to walk rather than have to be bused to the future high school.

White drew the support of councilman Charles Schwan, who commended him for the good idea and argued that the timing was right to take action, and councilwoman Rhea Cohen, who pointed out that this was a development that she has long sought and supported.

Council unanimously passed Cohen's motion that the Maryland State Department of Transportation be requested to provide funds for the design and construction of a pedestrian walkway over the B-W Parkway to connect with the school site, with other appropriate officials to be notified of such action.

City manager James Giese presented a completely new preliminary plan, prepared by T. D. Donovan & Associates, for renovation of the Center Mall. Giese explained that the new plan, to cost about \$55,000, was necessary in that increased cost had boosted the estimate for the original plan in excess of \$100,000.

The new plan would eliminate all planting beds and pave over the existing surface, with an interior portion to be finished with a new concrete finishing method that would appear similar to colored paving blocks. There would be new benches, increasing seating capacity, and twenty-two trees, with the whole area to be lighted.

Gabe Huck wondered about the present trees, and Giese said they would be transplanted if possible. Charles Collins stated that careful thought should be given to the trees, because if they were not able to support children climbing them they would soon be ruined. Giese stated these were to be large trees.

## ACT TO RESCIND ZONING

Hoping to keep Prince Georges moving ahead economically, Council members Lucille Potts and John Burcham presented a measure Jan. 16 to allow District Council to rescind zoning amendments if a plot isn't developed within five years.

The act allows District Council to rezone property to the zone recommended by the M-NCPPC if they find the land won't be used within a reasonable time or the zoning first given is no longer in harmony with the general uses in the neighborhood.

In addition, the legislation allows an aggrieved party to ask District Council to review the zoning of a piece of land at the end of the five-year period if M-NCPPC has suggested such a review.

Park and Planning will ask District Council to review the zoning classification after it determines land non-use and notifies the owner in writing of the deadline for filing his reasons for not starting construction, according to the bill.

The owner may ask for a hearing before the commission within 30 days of notification, at which time park and planning officials may decide there is no valid reason why construction hasn't started and transmit its finding to District Council with recommendations for action.

Upon receipt of a commission recommendation, the case will go before a hearing examiner just as the original zoning request was.

possibly pear or linden, with trunks approximately six inches in diameter, at a cost of about \$300 apiece.

A number of objections were expressed. Donald Volk questioned the use of the Bowmanite (colored concrete). Gabe Sucher objected to covering the remaining grass areas. Ed Thornhill suggested that this was not a Landover Mall and questioned spending so much money on the center mall when the buildings would still remain unchanged. He suggested that the city had made a good start and should simply continue with temporary measures until there was some change in the buildings.

Councilwoman Elizabeth Maffay agreed, stating the buildings were dirty and dingy and would still remain that way. Ben Goldfaden said it was a lot of money to spend to have a little island in the middle of a slum, jestingly suggesting that council use the money to buy the buildings instead.

Mayor Richard Pilski and Councilman Gil Weidenfeld both said that the city cannot afford to wait for the landlord in view of rising costs, and that citizens have been urging for a long time that something be done to fix up the mall.

Tom White suggested that, after the plan was carried out, council would find that citizens were still waiting for the mall to be fixed up — that buildings were part of the picture. Council eventually voted unanimously to carry out the plan, but also voted to contact the County to see if something could be done to force owners to fix up their properties.

### Traffic Survey

A number of recommendations for improving traffic safety were made by Consultant Robert L. Morris on a traffic survey he made for the city. The report was generally given a favorable reception, although Ed Thornhill suggested that Greenbelt has more stop signs than any city he knows of — "including one at a deadend street." He urged that the sign at the crosswalk on Centerway be removed and that double-parking at Northway and Woodlawn Way be done away with. Councilwoman Cohen moved that the recommendations of the report be implemented, assuming always that these could be changed if necessary. These included the clear painting of all cross-walks, putting up signs 150' from cross walks stating "yield to pedestrians", trimming hedges to required height at Woodlawn Way and Northway Road, installing "rumble strips" — an innovative warning device — at the two crosswalks across Crescent Road at Northway and restricting parking as recommended on Crescent Road and Lakeside at the discretion of the City Manager.

Council had previously conducted an in-depth review of the Western Prince George's County Transportation Alternatives and gave consideration to a draft for a position statement which drew considerable discussion and resulted in a number of changes. (Because of its length, this report will be covered in the next issue of the News Review.)

### Life Insurance

There was quite a hassle over the bidding for group life insurance. Only two companies had submitted bids according to the original specifications, both of whom were represented by local agents — Ben Goldfaden and Tom McAndrew. Although Manager Giese had specified that companies were free to submit variations, the Greenbelt agents protested that it was not possible to get an accurate

See CITY COUNCIL, p. 2, col. 3

### In Greenbelt's Library

Puppets will perform on the stage of the Miniature Theatre at Greenbelt Library on Thursdays, February 15 & 22. Performances will be held in the Program Room in the Children's Department at 2 p.m. for children ages 3-5 and at 4 p.m. for ages 6-10.

Extra Special Films for children ages 5-10 will be shown every Saturday at 11 a.m. from February 10 to March 31 in the meeting room. Come and enjoy!

A Special Valentine Craft Project will be held in the Children's Department on Friday and Saturday, February 9 and 10. Children are invited to drop in and make place mats to send special Valentine greetings to patients at Glenn Dale Hospital.

### Womans Club Meets

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## GREENBELT NEWS REVIEW

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MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$6.50 per year. Advertising and news articles may be mailed (Box 68, Greenbelt); deposited in our box at the Twin Pines Office; or delivered to the editorial office in the basement of 15 Parkway (474-4131), open after 8 p.m. Tuesday. Deadline is 10 p.m. on Tuesday.

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## Environmental News

by Gabe Sucher

For the past several months the Maryland Department of Transportation has been conducting a study of transportation alternatives proposed for western Prince Georges County. The principal study area (including Springhill Lake) is bounded by the Beltway to the north, the District line on the south, the Parkway on the east and the Montgomery County line on the west. Last summer a 60-member steering committee was formed to conduct the study, consisting of civic, environmental and business representatives as well as local elected officials.

The study is being conducted in two phases. Currently nearing the end of Phase I, 15 alternatives are being considered by the steering committee. These alternatives fall into five categories: the Null or No-Build option, Maximum Use of Existing Facilities, Transit Emphasis, Highway Emphasis, and Mixed-Mode. Only one proposal, Null alternative 2, envisions no highway expansion at all; the fourteen others all call for widening the Parkway to 6 or 8 lanes — there are various proposals for widening Kenilworth Avenue and U.S. 1, as well.

The extension of I-95 south has been proposed in three forms, either as a 6-lane expressway, a 4-lane busway/parkway, or an access road to the University of Maryland. Alternatively, an I-95 connector has been proposed linking I-95 to the Parkway. This facility would traverse the Beltsville Agricultural Center. Three grade-separated interchanges have been proposed for existing intersections at Kenilworth Ave. and Greenbelt Rd., Adelphi Rd. and University Blvd., and New Hampshire Ave and University Blvd.

Regarding Metro, a line will almost certainly be built extending to Prince Georges Plaza or further. There are proposals to add another branch to the Metro network serving the densely developed area in Langley Park. Greenbelt may have to fight to keep a Metro station at Greenbelt Road, but there are also proposals to upgrade existing commuter rail service on the B&O tracks.

At the present time the committee appears fairly solidly opposed to the construction of major new highways inside the Beltway; at its last meeting (Jan. 25) one of the committee's two subgroups approved by a 9-2 vote a motion to draw up for consideration a new transit emphasis package proposing no highway construction, with the exception of the Parkway widening, which the Maryland DOT staff seems to be treating as a fait accompli. In any case, a series of Phase I workshops was recently held to hear citizens' comments on the proposed alternatives. Phase II workshops should be held in April, and a hearing is scheduled for late May, after which a final decision will be made by the Maryland secretary of transportation, Harry Hughes.

## TROOPS 746 AND 202

by William A. Aleshire

To date Troop 746 has collected 15,615 glass containers and Troop 202 has collected 6,636. The New Year Resolution is to "Re-cycle" at the Greenbelt Public Works by the lake, Mon. to Sat. 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Paper Pick-up  
every Friday  
8:30 a.m.

## Recreation Review

## Kava - Valentine Dance

This Saturday, Feb. 10, 8-11 pm at the Youth Center, the theme is a Sweetheart Dance to celebrate Valentine's Day. Music will be provided by the popular "Summerfield Smith Band". All senior high teens are invited, the dress is casual and the price nominal.

## Garden Design Class

Beginning Tuesday, Feb. 13, the Recreation Dept. is offering a seven week Garden Design class. Participants will work on a landscape plan for their home garden, complete a layout and choose plants and structural materials. Classes will be offered Tuesday afternoon, with babysitting, from 1:30-2:30 pm, and Tuesday night from 8-9 pm. Register at the Youth Center Monday thru Friday 9-4 pm before Feb. 12. Call 474-6878.

## Class Registration - Second Session

Persons interested in signing up for the second registration of Ceramics and/or Women's Slimnastics classes may sign up at the Youth Center Monday thru Friday, 9 am - 4 pm. Call 474-6878. Ceramics: Beginners, Tuesday 10-12 noon with babysitting. Women's Slimnastics: Tuesday and Thursday 2:30-3:30 pm with babysitting.

Springhill Lake Recreation Center The Recreation Dept. has recently acquired the Springhill Lake Golf Course Club House as a recreation center. The Center is now open for after school and weekend drop-in of ping pong and table games. Hours are Monday thru Friday, 3:30-5:30 pm; Saturday and Sunday, 1-5:30 pm and Sunday 7-9 pm with evening hours when available. Hours are subject to change. Scheduled hours will be posted at the Center.

## CITY NOTES

During the week the city received its second call from a parent requesting information on Mary Beethune Jr. High. This parent's child missed the bus and she wanted directions to the school so she could pick him up.

Members of the city council and county council were the first ones in the line for the heart screening program. The city contributed \$2500 toward the program as did the county.

The general crew cleared a trail from the Golden Triangle to Indian Springs in order to repair the fence around the Walker Cemetery which is on city property.

The general crew repaired the fence around the Walker Cemetery by putting in new posts, post tops, and top rail. They also pulled a log across the trail to discourage people from dumping on the property.

On Friday the crew went out on storm sewer patrol — cleaning the catch basins after a week of heavy rains.

The parks crew had the chipper out and removed dead wood around the lake park. They also cleaned the underpass near Hillside and Crescent Rds.

Joggers will appreciate the concrete markers being buried every 1/10th of a mile around the lake. They will stick up a couple of inches above the ground and will be painted with fluorescent paint. Mileage markers will also be placed at intervals.

One vacancy was filled for a collector/producer on the refuse crew.

800 lbs of paper were collected during the week.

The special details crew installed lights on the public works building and repaired lights along the walkway in Braden Field.

The parks crew picked up paper and cleaned park areas and playgrounds.

## CITY COUNCIL from page 1

cost comparison due to the many variations in plans submitted. The problem became particularly acute, they pointed out, in relation to covering older employees aged 62 and older, due to the escalating costs as ages approached the longevity maximums. There was also uncertainty as to whether or not total coverage of all employees and council members were included in the estimates. Mayor Pilski insisted that all employees, regardless of age, should be covered for the maximum \$10,000 regardless of the costs — otherwise long-serving, faithful employees would be discriminated against. The rest of council agreed, also going along with his contention that council members should be covered inasmuch as they are subject to taking numerous trips on city business. Council also voted to have all employees covered by accident and disability insurance, and to have new bids submitted on the basis of clear specifications for coverage.

In other matters, council authorized the Greenbelt Fire Department and Rescue Squad to proceed as planned with developing a proposed addition on the rear of the fire station, after William Dunn explained that it would not be taking additional land space than is presently being used as part of the building. An ordinance was passed to establish a Youth Service Bureau grant fund into which federal funds received would be deposited and to appropriate \$58,998, the amount of the approved grant, for the purpose of providing technical and professional assistance in operating the Youth Service Bureau. The award of bids for the purchase of two new police squad cars was deferred until the manager had a chance to thoroughly review the two bids submitted. Council also, at the urging of Councilwoman Cohen, passed a resolution requesting that trucks hauling sludge to the Agriculture Research Center Compost Site be permitted to enter and exit only on Soil Conservation Road off Greenbelt Road.

In the matter of a liquor license application by the Grand China Restaurant, to be located in the Beltway Plaza, council voted to take no position at the February 16 hearing. Mayor Pilski voted a loud dissent, wanting to be recorded that he favored the application. Councilman Gil Weidenfeld brought up two matters concerning the recreation center at Springhill Lake. He moved that priority be given to equipment needs in order to expedite opening of the temporary facility — such as ping pong tables and bumper pool — and that a public hearing be held in Springhill Lake so that residents may be heard as to their wishes about what should go into the planning for the new recreation center building now in its planning phase. Council unanimously voted for both motions and a tentative date was set for a public meeting to be called by council in Springhill Lake on March 12.

In response to an expressed concern by Councilwoman Elizabeth Maffay regarding a ruling by the County Boys' Club to exclude youngsters from league play who presently participate in the Catholic Youth Organization league, council voted to write a letter to the President of the organization to determine if there was any discriminatory action before first taking any kind of sanctions against the league's use of Greenbelt facilities. Council also postponed the next regular meeting to February 26 due to the holiday.

## MISHKAN TORAH

Ridge &amp; Westway

Fri., Feb. 9 - 8:30 p.m. — Services Dr. Leo Walder — speaker Sat., Feb. 10, 8:30 p.m. OPEN HOUSE — "A Night at the Races" — Members & prospective members.

Rabbi Maurice Weisenberg  
474-4223

## ORT OPEN HOUSE

The Greater Greenbelt Chapter of Women's American ORT (Organization for Rehabilitation through Training) cordially invites you to an open house on Sat. Feb. 10 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at 9001 Breezewood Terrace, Apartment #103, in Springhill Lake.

## ST. HUGH'S BASKETBALL

Recently the Jr. girls teams played and won convincingly over St. Thomas Moore 38-12. Kim Potts and Sue Smith were high scorers for St. Hugh's with 28 and 10 points respectively.

## Washington Birthday Sale

STARTS 8 FEB. thru 20 FEB.

1 group Artificial Flowers 3 for 22c

1 group Vinyl Squeeze Toys 62c Reg. 1.00

Nurses white seamless Micro-Mesh Stockings 42c Reg. 1.00

1 group Shoes 22c ea. 44c pr.

All Girl's Dresses 1/2 OFF

Mens &amp; Boys Winter Caps 1/2 OFF

All Girl's Winter Pajamas 1/2 OFF

1 group Bath and Hand Towels 1/2 OFF

Many more items chopped!

Come in and Shop and See!

Central Charge-BankAmericard

Ben Franklin

Greenbelt Shopping Center

Open 9-9 Mon.-Sat.

## UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

(Mowatt Memorial) 40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, Md. Telephone 474-9410

Rev. Clifton Cunningham, Pastor - Tel. 474-3381

Worship Service 11:00 A.M.

(Nursery through Kindergarten at 11:00)

Church School (Kindergarten through adults) 9:30 A.M.

9:45 A.M. Sunday School 6:00 P.M. Training Union  
11:00 A.M. Morning Worship 7:00 P.M. Evening Worship  
7:30 P.M. Wednesday Midweek Service

## GREENBELT BAPTIST CHURCH

Crescent &amp; Greenhill Rds. S. Jasper Morris, Jr., Pastor 474-4040

## ST. HUGH'S DINNER PLAY

THE GRENOBLE THEATER GUILD

presents

## "See How They Run"

A Farce by Phillip King

February 2, 3 and

February 9, 10

DINNER - 8 P.M.

CURTAIN - 9:15 P.M.

Adults - \$7 per person

Children - \$3.50 per person

For Reservations call 474-8821 or 794-7333

## Twin Pines Annual Meeting

GREENBELT LIBRARY - TUES. FEB. 27 - 8 P.M.

## INADVERTENTLY!

The members of our V.I.P. Loan Comm.

were omitted last week:

William Fern

Francis Scott

John Webb

Harley Mann

5 1/2%  
Regular Savings6%  
Savings Certificates

## Twin Pines Savings &amp; Loan Assn.

Monday thru Friday 9 to 8

GREENBELT SHOPPING CENTER

Saturday 9 to 2

474-6900

## Courtney Falter

Courtney Lyn Falter, 21-month old daughter of Captain and Mrs. Ronnie Falter of Wichita Air Force Base, Kansas, died on January 29 after a short illness. She is survived by her parents and grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. David Falter, 4-B Gardenway.

# . . . . Letters to the Editor . . . .

## THANKS

The Petition Committee wishes to express its deep appreciation to those members of Greenbelt Homes Inc., who made possible our special meeting by signing this history-making petition. It's hard to believe but it is true that this is only the second special meeting ever called by the membership for the membership in the history of this housing corporation.

Orchids also to the good citizen members of our GHI self-government, who attended the meeting, helped write and print the attractive flyers, and an extra thankyou and a "well - done" to those hardy souls of all ages who walked around in the bitter cold to see that every family received one.

We, of course, are very sorry that you did not have the action you desired, namely the right for a meaningful vote on these all important subjects. Your legal rights as members have only temporarily been denied. The Petition Committee's attorney and his secretary were present all evening. We introduced him to Mr. Smith, the Board Chairman and to Attorney Ginsberg, board attorney. When we asked the Chair that he be allowed to offer his legal opinion on behalf of the members he represented, regarding the matter of making motions, Mr. Smith gave no answer that I could hear. Nor did Attorney Ginsberg ask that a fellow lawyer be given this courtesy. The News Editor of the Prince Georges Sentinel, Don Beaupre, was present all evening, too. It was by no means a total loss, the evening or our time. Be sure and pick up your copy of this week's Sentinel today, Thursday, if you do not already subscribe.

Thanks also to those who gave papers, including board member Tony Lynch, who doffed his board hat in favor of that of a rank and file member. We regret that the lateness of the hour and all the empty seats forced Norman Charles to quite properly decline to speak. We shall look forward to hearing from him.

The Committee will be reporting to you again or contacting you in person.

Eunice E. Coxon  
for the Petition Committee

## Cites Members' Guide

Have you ever seen a little four-page leaflet with the title "Members' Guide to Board Meetings"?

On the front page it says, "This leaflet is made available to give you a better understanding of meetings of the Board of Directors of Greenbelt Homes."

Please turn to the back page and read the paragraph under the heading Other Types of GHI Meetings.

"Besides Board Meetings, GHI also conducts membership meetings, both the annual meeting in May and special meetings, where members have the right to make motions, to discuss them, and to vote on all matters on the agenda of the meeting."

Then, the first membership meeting, called by the members since this was written, the rules are changed. Could it be that the Board did not want a public discussion now on the subjects, and definitely not any action?

Mary B. Welsh

## How Much Longer?

At the GHI Special Membership Meeting on January 31 the only presentation worth listening to was the TAA report. The others were more hostile than intelligent, full of petty name-calling, a general lack of facts, and showed amazing disregard and disrespect for the elders.

How much longer will the board provide a platform with microphones to less than two percent of the corporation? It's about time the board devoted the same amount of time and energy to the other ninety-eight percent who give them their backing as witnessed by the straw vote at the meeting.

I'll bet that session cost \$150 to \$200.

Terence K. O'Driscoll

## Stellar Performance

Last week's special membership meeting of GHI will go down in the annals of that so-called cooperative as another slap in the face for its members. Gag rule was laid on by the board who denied the petitioners their right to have their motion voted upon by the membership. Those who failed to attend missed a stellar performance by Mr. Amberg who presented a theatrical diatribe worthy of a Barrymore.

Mr. Amberg's highly emotional and dramatic tactics contributed greatly to the early exhaustion of the time allotted so that the program could not be completed. I am sure this delighted the Board.

Come next election, you should take a good look at the number of years some of your board members have been in control. A really fine example of dictatorial self-perpetuation. A change is sadly long over-due.

Norman B. Charles

## Time Limits Ignored

First Cathy Foster, then Eunice Coxon, then Tony Lynch and finally Ben Elkins - spokesmen for the Petition Committee - did not see fit to limit their individual presentations to the time allotted to them by the chair but chose instead to ignore the requests and rulings of the chair to conclude those presentations.

Was this unscrupulous absorbing of the time allotted to the Membership-at-large by the chair any fit action to be taken by those who spoke for the Petition Committee? I think not!

Ben A. Hogensen

## Facts Available

GHI members who are content to make a substitute for their participation in membership affairs out of reading the News Review's report lost another round, Wednesday, in the closing battle to preserve their lifestyle in this community.

They stand in much the same position as the board members who accept staff estimates without question - or without heeding other members' legitimate questions. The board forgets that staff is not, in the final analysis, responsible for the long - term well - being of the corporation; that board members are elected for that responsibility.

And we feel (it seems) that having elected a board, we can ignore it. I know that I have done so, in the past.

I have also supported GHI's need for money - for more than a decade. It needs vast amounts, as interest-free as possible, for discretionary as well as committed purposes. But, most importantly, it needs the capacity to spend money well: to get results. What it does not need, any more than it needs excuses or rationalizations at this late date, is to cozen up picayune sums through bent by-laws (whether good by-laws or bad) and members' rights impaired. A bent by-law fosters a broken one, and an impairment, dissipation.

Both are basic threats to our community. The best intentions cannot change facts. The facts are available to anyone with the candor to listen carefully.

Gordon Allen  
Member of the GHI Audit  
Committee

## Grass-roots Democracy!

As a newcomer to the city, I attended my first membership meeting of GHI last Wednesday at Center School. The turn-out was impressive and the preparations had been well made.

It was interesting to watch the contest over parliamentary procedure; I was glad to see that good sense prevailed. There were dull stretches in the presentations and replies, but it was all informative, and the main points did come out.

I thought it was a good example of grass-roots democracy at work, and I came away convinced that my interests are being protected by a competent board of directors.

Ottilie Van Allen

## "Potentially Destructive" . . .

We and they? The members and the board?

The view that GHI is composed of two groups - the membership and the board - was taken by four of the five who spoke for the petitioners, including the board member, at the special membership meeting. The exception was the commentator on the TAA Survey.

Such a position is potentially destructive of a membership organization, which is what GHI is. It produces the wrangling about parliamentary procedure that used up much of the first hour of the meeting. It encourages some members to appoint themselves spokesmen for the membership. Their doing so and their manner of doing so furnish the excuse for other members to withdraw in order to avoid the fray.

Both groups - the self-appointees and the withdrawees - do themselves and all other members a disservice. GHI is composed of only one group - its members. Every member is the equal of every other member in rights, privileges, and responsibilities. The board needs intelligent, informed, constructive criticism. Particularly is this true now when far-reaching proposals are nearing the point of presentation to the membership. That some members act in a manner that is divisive is bad enough. That other members abstain from participation in GHI affairs is even more unfortunate.

Charles F. Schwan

## Blessed Busing?

It was most refreshing to read the letter to the editor by Charles D. Kendall concerning busing, etc. Judge Kaufman did indeed jolt many of us from a "soporific stupor".

As a PTA president and parent, I am distressed that our children are now being punished for our lack of awareness which has permitted a small group of liberal extremists in our courts and communities to take over control of our schools.

Those of us who have been active in the County Council of PTA's and the Prince Georges School Board Nominating Convention have witnessed a small but well organized and dedicated group of pro-busing extremists take control of those organizations from a lethargic "silent majority." Some of us who actively worked to preserve our neighborhood schools tried to convey what was happening to our local PTA members but it was frequently rejected as a distasteful subject. The pro-busers learned that they could intimidate the majority by labeling them as racists for being unwilling to sacrifice their children for this "worthy" cause and they use this technique most effectively.

Any thinking person realizes that Italian, Spanish, Irish, Chinese or black neighborhoods and their associated schools are no more unconstitutional than Indian reservations and probably less so. It then stands to reason that there is something drastically wrong with our judicial system when the federal courts resort to basing decisions on something that is not there. It has been suggested that the courts are acting in collusion with one of the most racist organizations in this country, the NAACP! When I first heard that suggested my initial reaction was nonsense! Having followed the mockery in Judge Kaufman's court in Baltimore and the apologetic way in which Judge Haynesworth explained that their hands were tied certainly adds credence to the collusion theory.

In essence, the federal courts are shoving so much "goodness" down our throats that we are gagging on it. Although racial busing being imposed on Prince Georges county will no doubt result in lower educational standards, it may well be a blessing in disguise for the nation. Being located at our nation's capital our local news tends to be national in effect due to the concentration of legislators here. Perhaps some of them have been jolted out of their "soporific stupor" as well. For our country's sake, let us hope so.

Paul G. Leofsky

## Letter of Welcome

On behalf of the officers and the members of the John Carroll Elementary School Parent Teacher Association, I wish to take this opportunity to extend to you our appreciation for the fine write-up about the Open House which was held at the John Carroll School on Sunday, January 21.

John Carroll, as has been stated by the principal, Mrs. Gretta Henry is a friendly school with a calm and serene atmosphere and it is assured that the children transferred from the Greenbelt communities will enjoy being a part of the school. The principal, faculty, students and parents are going to make a special effort to assure that every child, as well as his parents, is welcomed and we want them to come in and feel at home as if they were in their former schools.

As president of the P.T.A., I wish to extend a hearty welcome to the parents from the Greenbelt Center and Northend areas and I want each of you to become an integral part of the organization. Remember, John Carroll is your school.

I am sure you are going to see that the best education possible will be provided for all children. Let us work together in unison, for where there is unity, there is strength as so beautifully stressed in the Book of Life-the Bible. For a house divided among itself can not stand and I hope that such a feeling will not enter into the hearts of those who are responsible for the character building of boys and girls as well as those who are to educationally train them to be productive men and women in tomorrow's world.

To those parents who are interested, the P.T.A. has several committees they can be a part of namely, Membership, Program, Way and Means, Legislation, Hospitality, Safety, Spiritual Guidance, Home and School Relations, Drugs, Human Relations and Public Relations. . . .

In conclusion, as concerned parents, Mrs. Wilson and I were elated to know that our daughter Helene's letter was chosen to be printed in your newspaper on last Thursday.

Let us continue to pray for a firm "Togetherness" that desegregation can work in our schools. . . .

Rev. Robert A. Wilson  
President, John Carroll P.T.A.

## POLICY ON LETTERS

While my remarks were correctly reported regarding the value of the News Review to GHI, I think one sentence might be liable to misinterpretation: ". . . the News Review has an open policy of publishing letters to the editor from GHI members, whereas the GHI News Letter does not."

During the time that I was chairman of the Newsletter committee we had no policy regarding publication of letters because there was no need for one. We received only one letter, and printed as I recall most of it. However, were the News Review to cease publishing letters, our Newsletter might then have to decide on a policy (and I would hope it would be as fair and broad a policy as that of the News Review).

Katherine Keene

## Warns Uninsured Motorists

The State Motor Vehicle Administration has notified all Maryland law enforcement authorities that it is now a violation of the motor vehicle laws, punishable by fine and/or imprisonment, to operate an uninsured motor vehicle in this State.

The MVA instructed police that on and after New Year's Day, every owner of a motor vehicle required to be registered in this State shall maintain automobile liability insurance on such vehicle in the amounts of \$15,000/30,000/5,000.

The Administrator advised that failure to maintain insurance is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than \$500 or by imprisonment for not more than two months, or both.

## Work for Better Schools

Fortunately for Prince Georges County the busing of public school students in order to achieve racial balance went into effect smoothly. In fact many parents were delightfully surprised to find the number of students per class greatly reduced. For many others, unfortunately, this was not so. In some cases class sizes were larger than what students had had previous to January 29. The parents of these students are upset, and rightfully so.

With emotions running high and the fear that a reduction in the standards of the public schools will occur, the Board of Education of Prince Georges County Public Schools must act promptly to insure that all classes remain small in size - about 25 students per class. If action is not taken immediately this spring, many of the students in these larger classes will not be back in the public schools next September.

We must not allow this to happen. Before next September Prince Georges County must act to show the nation that busing for desegregation can work and can result in a superior school system. In fact our schools must be of better quality and result in higher student achievement than the surrounding areas that do not have a busing program. Only then will we really make it work!

For the sake of our children become involved. Be a "citizen for better schools". Write to the Board of Education, to our county officials, and to our state officials to gain support for improvement of our schools. Only the best is good enough for our children. Do not let the assumption of failure of the public schools cause apathy and desertion of the systems and thereby make failure a reality. Our grandchildren too, will need public schools.

Eva Choper

## Md. Psychotherapist At Grenoble Hall

"Emotional Development - You and Your Children" will be the title of a talk to be given in Grenoble Hall at 8:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 14, sponsored by the Women of St. Hugh's. The talk is open to all interested members of the Greenbelt Community. The guest speaker will be Dr. Kenneth Greenberg, a psychotherapist from the faculty of Maryland University and author of the soon-to-be published "Parenting in a Troubled Society - A Tiger by the Tail." Emotional growth is probably the area of one's life which is least understood.

## BOYS CLUB NEWS

The fast moving Bullets paced by Bart O'Shea with 7 points and J. J. Jenkins with 4 outplayed the Bucks by winning 13 to 3. Pat Jackman did all the scoring for the losing Bucks.

The Hawks team led by John and Jimmy Hawk with 8 and 4 points respectively kept the Lakers behind all afternoon. Mark Blue scored 4 points and Jordy Drake 3 points in their losing effort.

All teams now have a 1-1 win-loss record going into the third round of play. Next games . . . Feb. 10th at St. Hugh's School Gym. Bucks vs. Lakers at 1:30 p.m. and the Bullets vs. Hawks at 2:30.

## COURSE ON INCOME TAX

"Your Federal Income Tax," a course designed to aid individuals in preparing their 1972 Federal Income Tax, will be offered at five different locations beginning February 12: Mondays at Bowie Senior and John Hanson Jr. High, Tuesdays at Largo Senior High, Wednesdays at Northwestern Senior High, and Thursdays at Laurel Junior High.

Julian Block, attorney in the field of taxation, and other tax consultants will instruct this course, that is offered for a fee.

For further information, call 336-6000, extension 218, or write to the Community Services Office, Prince Largo Road, Largo Md., 20870.

**GHI from page One**  
insufficient time for the membership to mull over the proposal.

## Maintenance

Tony Lynch, the third speaker for the petitioners and also a member of the board of directors, filled in at the last moment for Ben Hogensen. Hogensen, in a statement to the press, said that he had asked that his name be removed from the list of petition speakers. He said that he had resigned from the petition committee sponsoring the 6-item agenda because he saw a definite conflict of interest between the purpose of the TAA sub-committee, of which Hogensen is a member, and the purpose of some individuals on the petition committee. (The TAA sub-committee is a board-sponsored committee evaluating the recommendations of the TAA structural survey regarding the renovation of the GHI homes.)

Hogensen said that "there was also a conflict of opinion between what I knew to be fact and between what other members of the petition committee believed to be fact."

Lynch's statement dealt mainly with the alleged failings of maintenance and management and the fact that the maintenance staff had an over-concentration of 55 to 65 year-old workers. He did not have a sympathetic audience and he finally ended up by accusing the audience of not caring about GHI. Director Norman Weyel in reply commented that from his experience some of the best maintenance men are in their 60's, and drew a large applause.

## TAA Survey

Hugh O'Donnell, the next speaker for the petitioners, was credited with presenting the most constructive speech for his group. O'Donnell described the activities of the TAA sub-committee, of which he is a member, and said that the committee was in the data acquisition stage and will have a report soon regarding the many technical questions that a renovating project presents.

Director Dave Lange supplemented O'Donnell's presentation by describing the activities of the planning committee, of which he is chairman. This committee, and the finance committee, are looking into such aspects of a pilot rehabilitation project as selecting the homes for a pilot project, arranging for financing, and determining how to spread costs.

Lange reiterated that the frame homes are basically sound structurally and can be reclaimed "if we move fast enough." It was stressed that a membership meeting or referendum will be held before any action is taken to go ahead with a pilot project.

## Management Survey

Ben Elkins, the next speaker for the petitioners, deflated the results of the CMP management survey, saying that the survey money was poorly spent. He said that the answer to an overburdened management was not in the hiring of additional paid personnel but in the members pitching in.

Elkins was attacked on two fronts. Amberg observed that the management survey was undertaken mainly because Elkins' group kept hounding the corporation to take a management audit. Now, Amberg said, Elkins is disowning his own child.

Director Janet James implied that perhaps what Elkins didn't like about the survey was its conclusion that "the corporation had conducted its day-to-day business in a successful manner, and that current operations are reasonably effective and efficient."

Because of the lateness of the hour, the final speaker for the petitioners, Norman Charles, decided to forego his presentation.

## Mishkan Torah Open House

The Mishkan Torah is planning an Open House on Sat., Feb. 10 at 8:30 p.m. in conjunction with the film "A Night at the Races." There will be an entrance fee for members; prospective members free with a small donation. Refreshments.

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS GIVEN ON SLUDGE OPERATION AT FARM

by Elaine Skolnik

Experimental work on the composting of sludge (solid waste produced after treatment of raw sewage) is continuing at the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC) in preparation for the big operation of moving sludge from the Blue Plains treatment plant to BARC. "Hopefully, we should be ready to start receiving 160 wet tons a day in three or four weeks," said Dr. John Walker of the Biological Waste Management Laboratory, BARC.

The composting procedure, which will convert sludge into fertilizer, will occupy about five acres of land. The remainder of the isolated 90-acre site is wooded, and will serve as a screening area. After six months of testing, permanent sludge operating facilities will be located elsewhere in Montgomery and Prince Georges Counties. The Agricultural Center, which is some three miles from the Greenbelt core, is only being used as an experimental pilot project.

In a related development, Dr. Perry Stearns, Prince Georges County Health Officer, on February 1, responded in writing to questions submitted to him by the city council. Included among the questions and answers were:

Q. What precautions would be taken before the sludge was deposited in Beltsville to detect and eliminate harmful agents such as heavy metals and radiation?

A. The Agricultural Research Center reported that heavy metals in Blue Plains sludge did not produce any evidence of plant toxicity. We expect to receive an evaluation of the heavy metal and pathogen content in the compost along with recommended ways to use this material. As far as radioactivity is concerned, the division of Radiation Control in the State Health Department checked the sludge at Blue Plains and found no abnormal levels of radiation.

Q. What methods would be employed to prevent the undigested sludge from being washed into Indian Creek?

A. The Maryland Environmental Service is constructing a retention pond to prevent runoff from leaving the compost area. We are told that disposal of water in the pond will be by spray irrigation.

Q. How would the compost be kept from producing noxious odors?

A. Odors will hopefully be minimized through regular mixing to maintain the composting process. Apparatus to disperse an odor masking agent, if necessary, will be available for use at the site.

Q. How many trucks per day are anticipated going one way?

A. The Maryland Environmental Service estimates that there will be about 16 ten-ton truckloads per day at the beginning of the project and 40 twenty-ton truckloads when the tonnage rate increases to 600 tons per day. This assumes 20-ton trucks become available to replace the 10-ton units. The trucks will operate for eight hours a day, five days a week.

Q. Cannot the trucks be restricted to the use of the same route for entry and for exit? (That is, for the Greenbelt Road route both ways as opposed to Powder Mill Road and Kenilworth Avenue for the exit route.)

A. The information is that the trucks will use Greenbelt Road both ways and use Powder Mill Road only to go the short distance between Soil Conservation Road and the compost site. (The city council on Monday requested that trucks enter and exit on Soil Conservation Road and Greenbelt Road.)

## OPEN TRYOUTS

Prince Georges Little Theatre "A Flea In Her Ear" by Georges Feydeau. Period farce with parts for 9 men and 5 women. Tryouts to be held in New Carrollton City Hall Sat., Feb. 10 7 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Sun., Feb. 11 2 p.m. - 5 p.m. and 7-9:30 pm. People interested in working back stage are also invited. The show will be presented the last week of April and the first week of May. For further information call Clll Marshall 395-1791.

## Girl Scout Troop 95

by Julie Karkos

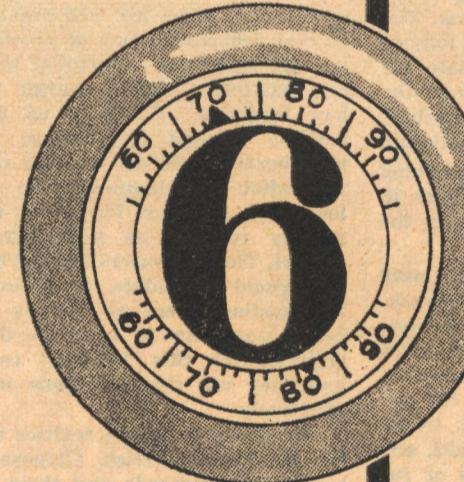
On Saturday, October 21, Girl Scout Troop 95 greeted Patricia Nixon Cox at the Legacy of Parks Ceremony at Greenbelt Lake. The honor guard was made up of one girl from four girl scout troops in Greenbelt. Karen Clute was the honor guard from Troop 95.

On December 24, our Troop visited the Greenbelt Convalescent Home and sang Christmas Carols. The troop made candles with candy canes in them, which they gave to the patients.

Mrs. Myers played the piano.

On February 24, Girl Scout Troop 95, will meet with nine other troops from Greenbelt at Springhill Lake Elementary School to celebrate Friendship Day. Each troop will represent a country; troop 95 will represent Ireland. Mr. Kelly came to our meeting and told us about the customs of Ireland. Ireland is 60 miles off the coast of England; the capitol is Dublin and the people speak Gaelic and English. As you probably know, Ireland is the country of St. Patrick.

We are now taking orders for Girl Scout Cookies to be delivered in early March. If no one has come to your house yet, please call 345-3572 to place your order.



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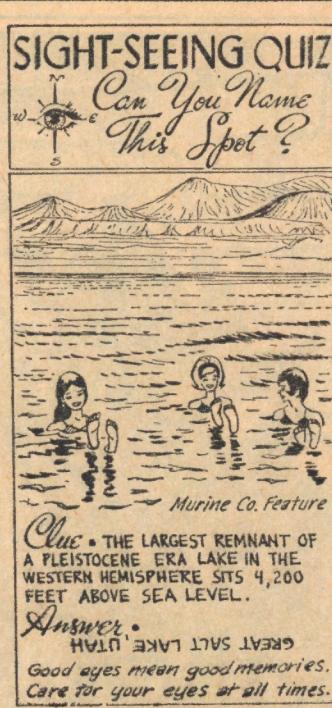
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Our deepest sympathy to Mr. and Mrs. David Falter, 4-B Gardenway, on the death of their granddaughter Courtney Lyn, daughter of Captain and Mrs. Ronnie Falter of Wichita Air Base in Kansas.

The Prince Georges Community College publication, Panorama, recently featured an article about Ben Goldfaden, Lakeside Dr. Goldfaden, former Greenbelt recreation director and city council member for ten years, is a member of the College Board of Trustees. A part-time teacher and coach at the college in the 1960's, Goldfaden has been associated with the Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company since 1952.

Hope that Joe Dalis, 37-F Ridge, will soon be feeling better. He is in Prince Georges Hospital.

Glad to hear that Josephine Seay, 6-S Plateau, is back home after a 10-day stay in the hospital.

According to the Washington Post, 31 Center School fourth graders whispered and giggled through an elaborate Japanese Tea Ceremony at the Museum of Natural History. The youngsters enjoyed the tea ritual, complete with tatami mats and a makeshift wood-and-rice paper wall and door. Nani Felsher, Jay Conway, Alan MacQuillan and Amanda Greene were chosen by their teacher, Marcia Nutzman to drink tea with hostess Rose Ann McHenry.

Cole Lauber, 2-Eastway, celebrated his sixth birthday at Shakespear's on Tuesday night. Happy birthday Cole!

Congratulations to Jill Clabaugh, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Oscar Clabaugh, 4 Pinecrest, who was named to the Dean's List at Florida Tech University where she is studying elementary education.

Condolences to Mrs. Susan Smith of Springhill Lake on the death of her father.

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**ORION, THE HUNTER** has found you a 3 BR home in the country on 2 acres of ground in Frederick County — about a 55 minute drive from Greenbelt. Very fine location! Modern bathroom, & kit. plus new furnace, new roof, and covered with aluminum siding. Call 345-2151 about this one right away — before another one gets away from you. Only \$30,000 bank financing available — or owner will hold 1st trust for qualified buyer. Remember \$30,000!

**MILKY WAY** is the only way you go when you see this very fine 3 BR masonry home with 10x15 paneled addition. Also included will be modern kit., washer, dryer, and a great deal of storage space as well as a garage. Come see and buy! \$22,950.

**VIRGO** all the dollars in your apartment rent? Well, forget about those and do not throw good money after bad. See this exceptionally clean 2 BR END home with washer, dryer and 18,000 BTU A/C. Take over pmts. of \$110.75/mo. after dwn. pmt. that includes all utilities except elect. and phone. \$13,500.

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**ARIES** the Ram says you should "horn" in on this 3 BR home with woods in back right away before someone else gets it before you do. Equipped with stove, ref., and A/C. Take over pmts. of \$116.75/mo. after dwn. pmt. \$13,700.

**LIBRA** policies are not needed to balance the scales on this 1 BR apartment a real find. W/W carpet included. Take over pmts. of \$90.25/mo. after dwn. pmt. \$7950.

**YOU'LL ORBIT** Greenbelt when you find out you have purchased this 2 BR masonry home at the new reduced price near Center, near Library, near to your pocketbook. Take over pmts. of \$106/mo. after dwn. pmt. that includes all utilities except elect. and phone. \$17,250.

**PISCES?** There is nothing fishy about this deal. You can get into this 2 BR home for less money than you think. Call 345-2151 anytime day or night for quick occupancy. Equipped with washer, dryer, and A/C. Take over pmts. of \$102/mo. after dwn. pmt. ONLY \$10,000.

**SCORPIO**'s Well, there might be a few, but some elbow grease will take care of a good portion of this problem — so don't crab about this deal at \$19,900. Only \$2500 assumes loans on this past item. Are you equal to the challenge? \$19,900.

**GEGENSCHEIN** is not needed on this very fine home with large addition. It creates its own light. Call 345-2151 anytime day or night or come to our office in the Greenbelt Shopping Center — over the post office. \$29,950.

**CAPRICORN** says do not let us "goat" you into seeing this 2 BR home with large jalousied addition, 12'x13' no less. Kitchen has self cleaning oven, lge. side by side ref/freezer. Covered patio. W/W carpet. Only \$16,000.

**LEO** says do not take this "LION" down. If CROWDED, see this 5 BR 3 bath Cent

## Caring for Trees

by David Stern

Large and healthy shade trees are an asset to almost any home. One certainly needs both patience and luck to have such trees; but beyond being patient and lucky, there exist quite a few things one can do for a tree, and doing them may well spell the difference between a vigorous bushy tree, and a spindly one which barely lingers on before it dies away.

Wintertime, when trees are dormant, is the best time for root-feeding your tree. One way of doing this, described in a booklet which can be obtained from the Cooperative Extension Service of the University of Maryland (627-5626, requires a sledge hammer, a stake and some inexpensive fertilizer, such as the standard 10-6-4 mixture. You can fashion a stake yourself by using the sledge hammer to flatten the end of an iron water pipe two feet or more in length.

The best time for root-feeding is around March, after the ground has thawed out: at that time the soil is soggy and soft but the trees are still in their dormancy. Starting 3-4 feet from the tree, pound the stake about 18" into the ground to make holes in a circle around the trunk, about 3 feet from each other. Into each hole pour enough fertilizer to fill 1/2 to 2/3 of a paper cup: you will find sturdy gloves useful for this job and will also discover that the stake is pulled out more easily if you tap it sideways now and then, while pounding it into the ground. If the stake encounters marked resistance, try a different spot nearby — you are probably hitting a stone. Continue making holes in circles around the tree, each circle about 3 feet further away from the trunk, until you are as far away as the ends of the outermost branches. The total amount of fertilizer per tree may well be 20-40 pounds.

Any time in winter is suitable for this chore but don't try it with the ground frozen unless you are looking for strenuous exercise. Root feeding in late spring or in the summer is not recommended, because the growth stimulation might then extend into fall, when the tree should be winding down its growth. Commercial root feeders which attach to garden hoses are very easy to use, but they use relatively expensive fertilizer pellets, dispense relatively small amounts of plant food and seem to do so rather slowly compared to the "stake and paper cup" method.

### Transplanting

Another job that's best done while trees are dormant (but after the thaw) is transplanting. If you ever wanted to transplant a tree from the forest to your yard, late winter is the best time for doing so: of course, unless you have singled out the tree before hand, or there are some dead leaves clinging to its branches, there might exist some problem of identification. Transplanted trees need no fertilizer during the first year but may benefit by pruning (before the leaves come out) and by being braced against the wind with a sturdy post, to which they should be loosely bound. In the springtime and summer be sure to pull out all weeds from their immediate vicinity.

Wounded trees should be painted with "Treecote" or a similar tarry compound. When applying the stuff make sure you are wearing your most expendable outfit: you should be able to clean your hands with paper towels moistened in gasoline, but it's hopeless to try to get stains out of your clothes. The same material is available in spray cans, but these tend to produce a rather thin coating. In any case, avoid applying the coating to wet trees — it just won't stick well.

### Ant Nests

If you find sawdust near the base of the trunk your tree might be harboring carpenter ants. Try to reach their nest, get rid of them with spray-can insecticide, then dig out (with knife, spoon, chisel or whatnot) all the chewed-up portions of the tree and plug the hole with concrete. Paint over with tar compound, for better appearance and to make an airtight seal.

Concrete filling is recommended

only for holes of modest size — you might be surprised to find how much material is required for even a small job. Here is a relatively easy way for doing it (but wait for warmer weather before trying it — freezing weakens concrete while it's setting). Get a piece of corrugated cardboard to fit the opening of the hole with extra margins at least two inches wide (if it is a long hole you can use two pieces — one for the bottom and one for the top). Encase the piece in a plastic bag (its opening pointing downwards) and nail it to the tree so that it covers the hole. The nails should be driven in only part of the way (to make it easier to pull them out later) and the top of the piece should be left loose (not nailed) so that when you pry it back you have an opening into which concrete can be poured. Mix some concrete ("Sakrete" ready mix is easily available and inexpensive) and spoon it into the opening with a small hand shovel, tamping it down now and then with a long rod or branch.

When you have filled the cavity all the way to the top nail up the top of your cardboard cover and forget it for two weeks. During that time the plastic lining will keep the concrete moist and will let it cure to maximum strength, meanwhile protecting the cardboard from moisture originating both inside and outside. At the end of two weeks rip off the cover, nails and all, and your work is all done.

There is much more you can do, such as digging wells around trees which had the bottom of their trunks covered by landfill (such trees are liable to die suddenly after appearing to be healthy for a long time). If you only take the little time required for such chores you will be assured of plenty of shade and pleasant greenery every summer.

## City Rec. Dept. Co-Sponsors 13th G.W. Birthday Marathon

Greenbelters will be participating in the 13th Annual Washington's Birthday Marathon and 2 mile races to be held nearby on the Agricultural Farm on Sunday, February 18 starting at 1 p.m. at the Log Cabin Cafeteria on Powder Mill Road. The two mile run will start at 11 a.m. Both races have entry fees.

About six Greenbelters are expected to start in the 26 mile marathon and more than 50 Greenbelters in the 2 mile which is non-competitive and mainly for joggers and inexperienced runners. At least 200 runners from all over the east are expected in the featured marathon. A runner can qualify for the Boston marathon with a time of 3 hours and 30 minutes for the race. The D. C. Road Runners and the Greenbelt Recreation Department are co-sponsoring these races to promote physical fitness. Information from Larry Noel 474-9362.

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Participating in the ceremony transferring the Springhill Lake Golf Course to the City of Greenbelt were Mayor Richard Pilski and Harold Kramer, of Springhill Lake (center) and Greenbelt city council members (from left) Betty Maffay, Charles Schwan, Rhea Cohen and Gil Weidenfeld.

City of Greenbelt Photo — Tom Freeman

## 4-H CLUB NEWS

By Kathy Allen

The Clover Clan 4-H group of Greenbelt attended the Prince George's County Recognition Night on Friday, January 26, in Upper Marlboro. Awards were given to 4-Hers in many categories.

The Clover Clan received four of these awards. The club was given its charter, awarded by the United States Department of Agriculture and the University of Maryland, and also a standard seal for achievements during the past year. These awards were accepted for the club by Sharon Hawes.

Gretchen Crabill received a medal for her dog-training project. Gretchen has been raising a Labrador Retriever, which will be trained to be a Seeing-Eye Dog.

Janice Lindahl earned a medal in breads; previously she had been awarded two championship ribbons for her Swedish tea ring and Swedish rosettes.

## Mishkan Torah News

Dr. Leo Walder will speak following services which begins at 8:30 p.m., on Friday, February 9, at the Mishkan Torah congregation. Dr. Walder, psychologist in the field of behavioral modification and the author of several books, will speak on the subject "Relating More Effectively Within the Family." There will be a question and answer session.

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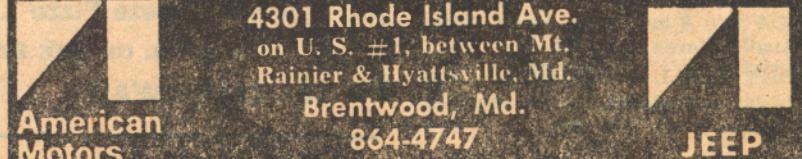
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